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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 19546-020200US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On October 2, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: James Cameron

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

THOMAS A. KEAN

Application No.: 09/780,681

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: METHOD OF USING A MASK
PROGRAMMED KEY TO
SECURELY CONFIGURE A
FIELD PROGRAMMABLE
GATE ARRAY

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2818

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 25-41 as follows:

- 1 25. (New) A method comprising:
2 fabricating a first plurality of programmable integrated circuits with a first
3 secret key embedded by way of a first mask set; and
4 fabricating a second plurality of programmable integrated circuits with a
5 second secret key embedded by way of a second mask set, wherein the second plurality of
6 programmable integrated circuits comprise the same programmable logic as in the first
7 plurality of programmable integrated circuits..

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01 FC:203 153.00 CH
02 FC:202 42.00 CH